

MEDIA RELEASE

Truth Justice and Healing Council CEO visits Church leaders in north-west Sydney

June 20, 2013



Mr Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Truth Justice and Council, today said the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will be a crucial time for the Catholic Church in Australia.

“The way we approach the Royal Commission could well determine the very shape of the Catholic Church in Australia in the future,” Mr Sullivan said.

Mr Sullivan was speaking at a meeting of more than 65 local Church leaders including local priests, Catholic school principals and the heads of Church agencies.

The Bishop of Broken Bay, David Walker also attended the meeting in Pennant Hills in Sydney’s north-west.

“The meeting to discuss the Royal Commission was an important opportunity to get feedback from people within the Church.

“It was very positive with everyone involved understanding the importance of the Church approaching the Commission with openness, courage and humility,” Mr Sullivan said.

Broken Bay Bishop, David Walker said the meetings provided valuable information about the Royal Commission and the role of the Truth Justice and Healing Council.

“This was an important opportunity to inform our people on the role of the Council.

“I have confidence the Council will be a positive and co-operative presence of the Church to the Royal Commission,” Bishop Walker said.

The Truth Justice and Healing Council has been established by the Catholic Church to coordinate the Catholic Church response to the Royal Commission into the Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Its role is to oversee the Church's engagement with the Commission, to develop new policies to protect young people and to ensure the Church responds to any future complaints appropriately with justice, putting the needs of victims first.

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For more information on the Truth Justice and Healing Council go to www.tjhcouncil.org.au